

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

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TAGS: EAID, ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON DISCUSSES MAJOR THEMES
FOR LOME NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER ISSUES

REF: (A) 77 BRUSSELS 19372; (B) BRUSSELS 911

1. IN COURSE OF ONE HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 26,
THE MAJOR PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS TO ANNOUNCE A COMMISSION
PROPOSAL (SEPTEL) FOR A COMMUNITY POLICY TO ENCOURAGE
EUROPEAN BUSINESS INVESTMENT IN THE LDC'S--ESPECIALLY
IN CONTEXT OF RENEWED LOME CONVENTION--EC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON ALSO DISCUSSED HUMAN RIGHTS
ISSUES, EC FOREIGN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL POLICY,
AND NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS.

2. ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CHEYSSON REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT
THIS WOULD BE ONE OF THE "THEMES" OF THE LOME II NEGO-
TIATIONS, ALTHOUGH HE REFUSED TO ELABORATE ON THE FORM
EC TREATMENT OF THIS SUBJECT MIGHT TAKE, I.E. PREAMBULAR
REFERENCE OR OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS IMPLYING SANCTIONS FOR
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NON-PERFORMANCE. IN EITHER CASE, HE EXPLAINED HE WAS
REFERRING TO BASIC RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL (SUCH AS
FREEDOM FROM TORTURE, THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND TO DUE
PROCESS), NOT TO A PARTICULAR MODE OF POLITICAL OR
SOCIAL ORGANIZATION. IN SUPPORTING INCLUSION OF
REFERENCE TO RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN TEXT OF RENEWED
LOME AGREEMENT, CHEYSSON ASSERTED THAT DEVELOPING

COUNTRIES' PERFORMANCE IN THIS FIELD IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE "JUSTIFIED EMOTION OF PUBLIC OPINION (IN THE EC-9) MIGHT DEPRIVE US OF THE BACKING NEEDED TO SUPPORT OUR DEVELOPMENT POLICY" TOWARD THIRD WORLD.

3. A SECOND MAJOR THEME LIKELY TO BE EXPLORED IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND ITS ACP PARTNERS, CHEYSSON CONTINUED, IS POSSIBILITY OF IMPROVING INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE COOPERATION IN LOME CONVENTION CONTEXT. THE LATTER SHOULD BE "REFINED" TO HELP ACP COUNTRIES "BETTER EVALUATE" THEIR DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND NEEDS. (COMMENT: IN MISSION VIEW, THIS IS, IN PART, A WAY OF SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF INTERNAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN THE NINE, FUTURE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND SUPPORT FOR LDC INDUSTRY SHOULD BE DIRECTED ONLY TO THOSE SECTORS WHICH POSE LITTLE THREAT TO EUROPEAN ECONOMIES. END COMMENT.)

4. CONCERNING NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, CHEYSSON REPORTEDLY RECALLED THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS. HE HOPED THAT THE EC-9 AND ITS GROUP-B PARTNERS WOULD SOON BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN QUEST FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE NOTED, AS LONG AS THE G-77 POSITION REMAINS "TOTALLY FROZEN", NO CONCESSION ON GROUP-B'S PART WOULD BE SUFFICIENT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITSELF TO BRING THE NEGOTIATION TO A FAVORABLE CONCLUSION: "WE HOPE FIRST TO RECEIVE AN INDICATION THAT THE G-77, IN ABANDONING CERTAIN OF THEIR POSITIONS, ARE TRULY READY TO NEGOTIATE." CHEYSSON REPORTEDLY CHARACTERIZED PRESENT G-77 ATTITUDE TOWARD UNCTAD INTEGRATED PROGRAM AS "MAGINOT LINE, FORTRESS" MENTALITY, OFFERING NO SCOPE FOR COMPROMISE WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. HINTON

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